

REUSE / RECYCLED WATER**Steiner Ranch Wastewater Treatment
in Gallons****2014**

Plant Total	337,968,100
Pump Over	(38,083,900)
Drip Irrigation	(20,886,000)
Evaporation	(33,796,810)
TOTAL REUSE	<u>245,201,390</u>

2015

Plant Total	367,563,000
Pump Over	(82,900,900)
Drip Irrigation	(22,479,300)
Evaporation	(36,756,300)
TOTAL REUSE	<u>225,426,500</u>

2016

Plant Total	371,157,000
Pump Over	(103,490,100)
Drip Irrigation	(28,789,600)
Evaporation	(37,115,700)
TOTAL REUSE	<u>201,761,600</u>

**Flintrock Wastewater Treatment Facility
in Gallons**

Plant Total	94,303,500
Evaporation	(9,430,350)
TOTAL REUSE	<u>84,873,150</u>

Plant Total	116,162,000
Evaporation	(11,616,200)
TOTAL REUSE	<u>104,545,800</u>

Plant Total	136,968,200
Evaporation	(13,696,820)
TOTAL REUSE	<u>123,271,380</u>

2016 REUSE TOTAL

STEINER RANCH WWT	201,761,600
FLINTROCK WWT	123,271,380
COMMANDER'S POINT WWT	2,844,000
Total Gallons Reuse	<u>327,876,980</u>

$$327,876,980 \div 325,800 = 1,006.4 \text{ Acre Feet}$$

2012 Save Texas Water
Blue Legacy Award
Nomination – Water Reuse Program, Rural Water Supplier
Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 17

Water District 17 is a retail non-profit public utility with over a 50 year history of providing quality water and wastewater service to customers in the Lake Travis area from the intersection of Highway 71 West / Bee Creek Road to the intersection of FM 2222 and RR620 North excluding only the area served by Hurst Creek Municipal Utility District and Lakeway Municipal Utility District. Our mission is to provide our customers with an adequate supply of safe, potable water, and to ensure the fiscally sound, environmentally responsible development and management of water resources and wastewater facilities.

Water District 17 was created by order of the Commissioner's Court of Travis County, Texas and confirmed by the voters within the District in February of 1959. The District is located west of the city of Austin in Travis County, Texas, and encompasses a service area of approximately 15,000 acres; serving approximately 10,200 water accounts and 4,000 wastewater accounts and a population of about 30,000.

As a political subdivision of the state of Texas, the District is a public utility with the rights, powers, privileges and authority established by the general laws of the State of Texas, particularly Chapter 51 of the Texas Water Code. The District is subject to the supervision of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Federal regulation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

More information on the District is available on the website www.wcid17.org.

District 17 is pleased to present this package for consideration in the 2012 Blue Legacy Award program.

SECTION II – DESCRIPTION OF WATER REUSE PROGRAM AND CONSERVATION PRACTICES

Water District 17's reuse program is the largest in the Lake Travis area. It encompasses reuse not only for recycled effluent permitted through the wastewater treatment plants and used to irrigate golf courses, but also extensive landscaping and tree irrigation on medians and rights-of-way as well as common areas for homeowners associations.

District 17 has obtained a Chapter 210 Reclaimed Water Authorization permit for the entire area of the District. This permit allows for many opportunities to make use of recycled water wherever possible. The District operates four wastewater treatment plants, and each one has an associated reuse system. The Steiner Ranch plant can process

up to (1.5 million gal/day) one-million, five-hundred thousand gallons per day and is now processing about (800,000 gal/day) eight-hundred thousand gallons per day. Water from this plant is used to irrigate the University of Texas Golf Course; landscaping along Quinlan Park Boulevard and some of the Steiner Ranch Boulevard as well as common areas of the Steiner Ranch Master Association and Steiner Ranch Community Associations. The Steiner Ranch system recycles approximately (240,430,000 gal/yr) two-hundred million, four-hundred thirty thousand gallons of water per year.

The Flintrock Falls wastewater treatment plant can process up to (500,000 gal/day) five-hundred thousand gallons per day and is now processing about (200,000 gal/day) two-hundred thousand gallons per day. All water from this plant is used to irrigate the Flintrock Falls Golf Course, and eventually, the plant will provide almost (100%) one-hundred percent of the needed water for the course. District 17 partners with neighboring Hurst Creek Municipal Utility District to share storage in one of the effluent ponds serving the course so that recycled water can be provided by either utility. Additionally, some of the landscaping in the Flintrock Falls common areas uses recycled water. The Flintrock Falls system recycles approximately (62,370,000 gal/yr) sixty-two million, three-hundred seventy thousand gallons per year.

The small Commander's Point wastewater treatment plant treats all of the water from the fifty homes in the Commander's Point neighborhood. Although this plant has a designated land area to irrigate, piping has recently been installed to allow direct irrigation of all Commander's Point Homeowners Association landscaping. This plant now releases an additional (2,000,000 gal/yr) two-million gallons per year.

The (100,000 gal/day) one-hundred thousand gallon per day, Comanche Trail wastewater treatment plant, serving the Oasis restaurant, recycles water to a close-by grove of willow trees. The landscaping recycles an estimated (1,000,000 gal/yr) one-million gallons per year.

Large homeowner associations common areas now using recycled water from District 17 include:

- Arbolago Neighborhood (District 17 partners with Lakeway Municipal Utility District to allow District 17 water customers to use the closer Lakeway Municipal Utility District effluent for irrigation)
- Longhorn Village Retirement Center in Steiner Ranch
- Steiner Ranch Homeowner Association
- Steiner Ranch Master Association
- Villas at Commander's Point
- Villas at Flintrock Falls, Sections I and II (District 17 partners with Hurst Creek Municipal Utility District to allow District 17 water Customers to get recycled water from the closer utility)

District 17 has additional reuse plans for projects under construction. The largest of these will be the Lakeway Regional Medical Center parkland area estimated at twelve acres.

Effluent lines are currently being installed which will eventually irrigate this land with recycled effluent.

SECTION III – MEASURING RESULTS

Since all recycled water is metered, measuring results is simple and accurate. Records of recycled amounts are attached.

SECTION IV – LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION

As the recipient of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Irrigation Advisory Council award for Outstanding Leadership and Management of Local Water Resources and Commitment to Water Conservation through Effective Landscape Irrigation, 2009, District 17 is a recognized leader in water conservation.

The District is the only Water Control and Improvement District in the area to have an enforced irrigation ordinance and irrigation plan review program with a licensed irrigation inspector on staff who reviews every irrigation plan for effective use of water. The District works closely with all local entities to ensure our water resources are protected and conserved including such programs as:

- ❖ Emergency Interconnect and Mutual Assistance Agreements with:
 - City of Austin
 - Hurst Creek Municipal Utility District
 - Lakeway Municipal Utility District
 - Lower Colorado River Authority
- ❖ Reciprocal Effluent Irrigation Use Agreements with:
 - Hurst Creek Municipal Utility District
 - Lakeway Municipal Utility District
- ❖ Water Conservation efforts with the Lower Colorado River Authority
 - High efficiency toilet replacement program
 - Indoor water audit program, i.e. hotels, schools
 - Low flow showerhead program
 - Water IQ presentation at a community wide *Waterfest*

The District water audit program has been repeatedly cited by the Lower Colorado River Authority as one of the most advanced and effective in the area. District 17 routinely conducts individual customer water audits and has conserved hundreds of thousands of gallons using this tool.

- Several other District programs could be submitted for the Blue Legacy recognition under other categories including:
 - ✓ Conservation Rate Structure
 - ✓ Irrigation Audit Program
 - ✓ Automated Meters (District 17 has replaced all meters with Automated Meter Readers which allows numerous usage graphs)
 - ✓ Public Awareness
 - ✓ Participation in protecting and conserving Lake Travis through membership of the Lake Travis Coalition, the Coalition of Central Texas Water Utilities Development Corporation and many other water conservation and protection organizations.

Thank you for this consideration for Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 17 to be recognized as the 2012 Blue Legacy Award recipient. District 17 is committed to responsibly protect and conserve water while providing quality service to its customers at an affordable cost.

References:

Irrigation Advisory Council, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Nora Mullarkey, Supervisor Lower Colorado River Authority Water Conservation